

House Resolution No. 3620

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives feel it is altogether fitting and proper to pause from time to time to recognize individuals and organizations that have contributed to the welfare of this great state and its citizens, particularly its public servants; and

Whereas, the members now pause to recognize Dr. Eric Blank, who is to retire from his position as Director of the Missouri State Public Health Laboratory, after twenty-three years of loyal and dedicated service; and

Whereas, Dr. Blank began his service with the State of Missouri, Division of Health on February 4, 1985, as an Assistant Director for the State Public Health Laboratory, and in 1987 he was promoted to Director; and

Whereas, Dr. Blank was a pioneer by formulating a successful plan to keep the State Public Health Laboratory operational during the Great Flood of 1993, overseeing the successful laboratory evacuation; and

Whereas, Dr. Blank was instrumental in ensuring the State Public Health Laboratory meets CLIA standards and implemented an interdisciplinary job classification for laboratory scientists; and

Whereas, Dr. Blank worked to develop, deliver, and implement laboratory standards for operation to remote areas of the world, including Africa and China; and

Whereas, Dr. Blank served as a member of the Management Committee of the Association of State and Territorial States; on the Board of Directors for the National Committee for Public Health Leadership; and as president of the Association of Public Health Laboratories; and

Whereas, Dr. Blank led the approval, design, construction, and opening of the new Missouri State Public Health Laboratory building; and

Whereas, Dr. Blank has faithfully dedicated his professional life to the service of the state, national, and world public health systems:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-fourth General Assembly, join to extend our sincerest congratulations and gratitude to Dr. Blank for his years of service and his many and invaluable contributions to this great state, with our best wishes for continued success and happiness; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of Dr. Eric Blank.

Offered by _____
Representative Bill Deeken
District No. 114

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Ninety-fourth General Assembly, Second Regular Session,
do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House
Resolution No. 3620, adopted July 15, 2008.

Rod Jetton, Speaker